

## **Chapter 17.10**

### **CONNECTIONS TO SYSTEM**

*(The Operative Date of Ordinance No. 18263 passed November 3, 2003 is JANUARY 4, 2004).*

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#### **17.10.010 Registered Plumber to Perform Work.**

Only persons registered with the City of Lincoln Department of Building and Safety as a master plumber, journeyman plumber, or plumber's apprentice working under the direct continuous site supervision of a master plumber or a journeyman plumber, may install, alter, or repair any water supply pipe, or water service pipe except as may be otherwise provided in Title 24 of the Lincoln Municipal Code.

Only persons registered with the City of Lincoln Department of Building and Safety as a master plumber, journeyman plumber, or plumber's apprentice working under the direct continuous site supervision of a master plumber or a journeyman plumber, may provide the necessary plumbing for the installation or removal of water meters and backflow prevention assemblies except as may be otherwise provided in Title 24 of the Lincoln Municipal Code. (Ord. 18263 §1; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 13892 §33; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.020 Application for Service.**

Every person desiring to connect their property with a main, or desiring to replace or relocate any supply connection, supply pipe, or service pipe thereto connected with a main shall make application to the Director for a permit for doing said work. Each application for such permit shall be made in writing on forms to be furnished by the Director and shall state the size pipe to be used, the legal description and the street address of the property to be supplied with water, the nature of water usage, the full name of the

owner of such property, and the name of the registered master plumber or fire suppression system contractor who is to do said work. The application for service shall be signed by both the owner of the property to be served or his authorized representative and the registered plumber who will perform the work. (Ord. 13892 §34; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.030 Permit.**

Upon the filing of the application required by Section 17.10.020, and the payment of the permit fee, a permit will be issued to do the necessary work if such application in all respects complies with existing ordinances administered by the Lincoln Water System. The permit will be issued or denied within fifteen working days of the filing of the application. The registered plumber or fire suppression system contractor shall notify the Director when such permitted work is ready for inspection, and said work shall not be backfilled until an inspection by the Director is made. Such plumber or contractor shall also furnish all other data required by the Director. No person other than the Director shall, under any circumstances, tap the main. When required by the Director, a backflow prevention assembly of the type approved by the Lincoln Water System shall be considered a condition of the permit. (Ord. 18263 §2; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 13892 §35; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.040 Permit Fee.**

For all permits for water service, two inches in diameter and smaller, hereafter issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, there shall be charged, as applicable, a permit fee in an amount determined by the Director to be sufficient to cover the city's cost of making the tap and of furnishing the required supply connection, water meter with meter stops, and meter couplings, and other required meter apparatus. For all permits for water service from service pipes larger than two inches in diameter, hereafter issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, there shall be charged, as applicable, a permit fee in an amount determined by the Director to be sufficient to cover the city's cost of such installation. (Ord. 13892 §36; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.050 Conditions of Permit Not Guaranteed.**

Every permit issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is hereby conditioned upon satisfactory compliance of all provisions of this title and such other ordinances or provisions of ordinances as the City Council may from time to time enact. A permit shall not be construed as a guarantee of the sufficiency of the quantity, quality, or pressure of the water supply, nor shall the approval of any plans by the Director, or the approval or recommendation of any pattern or type of pipes, valves, or other appurtenances or accessories, or the inspection of any work by the Director, be construed as a guarantee of the sufficiency thereof or of the sufficiency of the quantity, quality, or pressure of the water supply. (Ord. 11657 §33; April 12, 1976).

#### **17.10.060 Reservations in Permit.**

Every permit issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter is hereby made subject to the right of the city at any time to shut off water in any main, mains, or source of supply for the purpose of making repairs or extensions thereof, or for any other purpose set forth in any other ordinance of the city, or for any reasonable purpose determined by the Director. All persons having water cooled air conditioners, boilers, tanks or other apparatus dependent upon a continuous water supply from the Lincoln Water

System shall take sufficient precaution against the temporary interruption, failure or insufficiency of such supply. (Ord. 13892 §37; July 16, 1984).

**17.10.070 Permit Required to Take Water; Tamper With Water Works.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or take water from a part of the Lincoln Water System without a permit to open, use, tamper with, or remove any fire hydrant of the Lincoln Water System; or to connect to, tamper with, or remove any supply connection, supply pipe, service pipes, or meter apparatus directly or indirectly connected with a main of the Lincoln Water System, without written authorization..

(b) Water may be taken from fire hydrants by the various departments of the city and by private persons under a special permit therefor issued by the Director, who shall issue one or more water meters to each such permittee, which meter or meters, together with such backflow prevention assemblies as the Director may determine necessary, must be connected to each fire hydrant and must meter all water flowing therefrom pursuant to such special permit. Nothing in this title shall be deemed in any manner to prohibit, hinder, or require a permit of the Fire and Rescue Department of the city in carrying out its fire-fighting duties.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or take water from new service connections without a water meter and backflow preventer as supplied by the Lincoln Water System connected to the water service piping. This apparatus will be supplied by the Lincoln Water System. Construction water meters and backflow preventers shall be connected to the new water service line at the time the water tap is made. The permittee shall be responsible for any loss of apparatus or damage to the water meter or backflow preventer. All costs for the loss or repair of water meters and backflow preventers shall be the responsibility of the permittee. (Ord. 18263 §3; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 18170 §27; April 28, 2003; Ord. 13892 §38; July 16, 1984).

**17.10.080 Water Service to Mobile Home Courts, Campgrounds, Shopping Centers, Office Parks, Multiple Dwellings, Townhouses, and Condominiums.**

(a) Water service to all mobile home courts, campgrounds, shopping centers, and office parks shall be provided only through a master metered water service complete with a master water meter and approved backflow prevention assembly. When a fire hydrant or hydrants are contained within the mobile home court, campground, shopping center, or office park, the minimum size service shall be six inches in diameter, and an approved fire flow meter shall be required; provided, however, that if such fire hydrant or hydrants are served by a service pipe which is entirely separate and apart from the general water supply or domestic water supply of the mobile home court, campground, shopping center, or office park in which such fire hydrant or hydrants are located, and the service pipe serving such hydrant or hydrants is used exclusively for fire protection, the Director may authorize the use of a detector-double check instead of a fire flow meter and backflow prevention assembly. Such detector-double check shall be of a type and size approved by the Director. If, in the opinion of the Director, such service pipe is used for other than fire protection purposes, the Director shall require the owner of the mobile home court, campground, shopping center, or office park to remove the detector-double check and to install an approved fire flow meter and backflow prevention assembly at said owner's own cost and expense.

(b) All multiple dwellings and condominiums, except townhouses, shall be provided service only through a master metered water service complete with a master water meter and, if required, an

approved backflow prevention assembly. When a fire hydrant or hydrants are installed on the master metered water service, the minimum size service shall be six inches in diameter, and an approved fire flow meter shall be required. When all buildings of multiple dwellings or condominiums abut a public water main, each building shall have a separate supply connection, supply pipe, curb stop, stop box, service pipe, water meter, and other required meter apparatus.

(c) Each townhouse shall have a separate curb stop, service pipe, water meter, and other required apparatus. Each building in a townhouse development in which common ground exists, may be supplied water through a common supply pipe with a master stop box.

In a townhouse development with all lots abutting a public water main, each townhouse shall have a separate supply connection, supply pipe, curb stop, stop box, service pipe, water meter, and other required meter apparatus. (Ord. 18263 §4; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 16906 §4; December 11, 1995; Ord. 14430 §2; July 14, 1986; Ord. 13892 §39; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.090 Extending Service.**

Not more than one premises, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, can be supplied from one service pipe, and it shall be unlawful for any person to extend any supply pipe or service pipe on any premises to another part of said premises, or to any other premises, and/or install hydrants in connection therewith without first having obtained a permit from the Lincoln Water System to do so. Application for such extension permit and/or installation of hydrants in connection with such water service shall be in writing and filed with the Lincoln Water System. If such permit be granted, such extension or such hydrants shall be installed in strict compliance with all the provisions of this title. (Ord. 18263 §5; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 13892 §40; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.100 Systems Separate When Two Sources Supply Same Premises.**

On premises where water is supplied from two or more sources, the city water being one of them, the services must be entirely separate. A backflow prevention assembly of the type approved by the Lincoln Water System shall be installed on the service line supplying city water. (Ord. 18263 §6; November 3, 2003; prior Ord. 13892 §41; July 16, 1984).

#### **17.10.110 Connection Fee; Notice.**

Whenever the owner of any property desires to connect the same with a city water main and the cost of such main or a portion thereof has been paid by the City of Lincoln or an abutting property owner or subdivider pursuant to the executive order process authorized by Lincoln Municipal Code Section 26.11.038, and no part of the cost of which main has been assessed against the property sought to be connected with such main, the owner of such property sought to be connected shall be required to pay to the City of Lincoln a connection fee equivalent to the cost of the construction of said main as it pertains to such property or to an assessment had the property been assessed for such construction in accordance with city standards. When the water main has been constructed pursuant to the executive order process at no cost to the city, the connection fee paid to the city as provided herein shall in turn be paid by the city to the permittee who constructed the city water main and who thereby paid the cost of construction.

The connection fee described in this section shall be paid as a condition to providing city water service to the property.

Whenever the city has provided water mains or portions of water mains in a manner that creates a connection fee according to this section; and whenever the connection fee is in excess of \$100.00 and remains unpaid for a period of thirty days or more, the Director shall file a "notice of connection fee" on the affected property in the office of the Register of Deeds. The notice of connection fee shall state the legal description of the property affected, the amount of the connection fee, and a statement that the connection fee must be paid as a condition to connecting the property to the city's water service. (Ord. 18055 §1 August 12, 2002: prior Ord. 15183 §1; May 15, 1989: Ord. 11657 §39; April 12, 1976).

#### **17.10.120      Abandonment of Service.**

Whenever a water service is abandoned or has been replaced by another water service, it shall be the duty of the owner of the premises served by such service to have the old service properly abandoned at the main at their own expense before making a new connection for a new service. Such abandonment shall be accomplished subject to any regulations adopted by the Director. In the event of the failure of the property owner of the premises to properly abandon the service, the Director shall have authority to make such abandonment and charge the same against the property served by the old service. Abandonment of service shall include, but not be limited to the proper removal of meter vaults, stop boxes, taps, and valve boxes.

The Director, at his discretion, may permit such person to agree in writing to have such abandonment made prior to a specified future date; provided, that such person furnishes the city with a bond conditioned upon the fact that in the event such person fails for any reason to have such abandonment made and be reimbursed for the actual cost thereof up to the full principal amount of the bond. Such bond shall be either a cash bond or a bond written by a corporate surety company authorized to do business in the State of Nebraska for the performance of such work. Such bond shall be in a principal amount determined by the Director sufficient to cover the cost to the city of having such abandonment made, and shall be subject to the approval of the City Attorney. (Ord. 18263 §7; November 3, 2003: prior Ord. 13892 §42; July 16, 1984).